



SPAWN[®]

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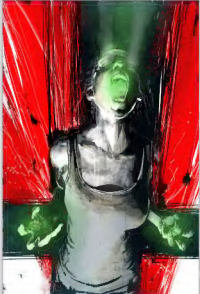
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PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

The finale of the Dark Horror story arc. Spawn meets up with the massive creature who has been using innocent souls to feed on, but it seems Spawn is not powerful enough to defeat him without help. Inside the testing facility, Cyan tries to escape with the help of Yoko, who is now a ghost. Feeling helpless, Cyan runs and finds herself in a room surrounded by pharmaceutical drugs. She feels there is no way out and is unable to fight the urge to use the drugs. She injects a syringe and instantly begins to feel like her powers are heightened. She emerges from the facility to face the monster who killed her host family and many others. Cyan then turns the monster's thoughts on himself and seeing the souls he's killed, he begins to break apart his own skull causing him to kill himself. Once the being is defeated, Spawn blows up the testing building, freeing the souls of those still there, including Yoko.

THEY'VE BOTH BEEN FAIRLY SILENT SINCE BOARDING THEIR PLANE. BUT THIS IS A FLIGHT THAT WILL TAKE OVER TWELVE HOURS TO REACH ITS DESTINATION. SLEEPING AND WATCHING MOVIES, WILL ONLY DISTRACT THEM FOR SO LONG. EVENTUALLY THEY NEED TO HAVE THE CONVERSATION BOTH ARE DREADING.

THE REASON FOR THEIR RETURN TO NEW YORK IS THE ABJECT FAILURE TO KEEP CYAN SAFE. SHE NEEDED REASSURANCE THAT THE FORCES FROM HEAVEN AND HELL WOULD LEAVE HER ALONE.



OR BETTER YET, THAT THOSE FORCES WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FIND HER SO QUICKLY. BUT NONE OF THAT WORKED OUT. *

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO TELL YOUR DAD WHEN WE LAND? HE'S... YOU KNOW, HE'S GOING TO ASK QUESTIONS.



WHAT?

YOU SAY SOMETHING?



I SAID WE'RE GOING TO BE LANDING IN A FEW HOURS.

OKAY.

WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT WE'RE GOING TO TELL EVERYBODY. AND WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU.





I CAN
TAKE
CARE OF
MYSELF.

IS THAT
RIGHT?

LOOK, I DON'T
KNOW WHAT'S ON YOUR
MIND, BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO
LECTURE ME ABOUT WHAT I
CAN OR CAN'T DO, I'M NOT
LISTENING TO IT.

NOT
ANYMORE.



CYAN, I'M NOT
TRYING TO LECTURE YOU.
I'M TRYING TO WARN YOU
AND TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE
NOT READY. AT LEAST NOT YET.
AND THEY'LL COME AFTER
YOU KNOWING YOU'RE NOT
PREPARED.

OH, GIVE ME
A BREAK! IF YOU WANT
ME TO BE SCARED-- I'M
NOT. NOT AFTER WHAT
HAPPENED IN TOKYO. NOT
AFTER THEY KILLED MY
FRIENDS.

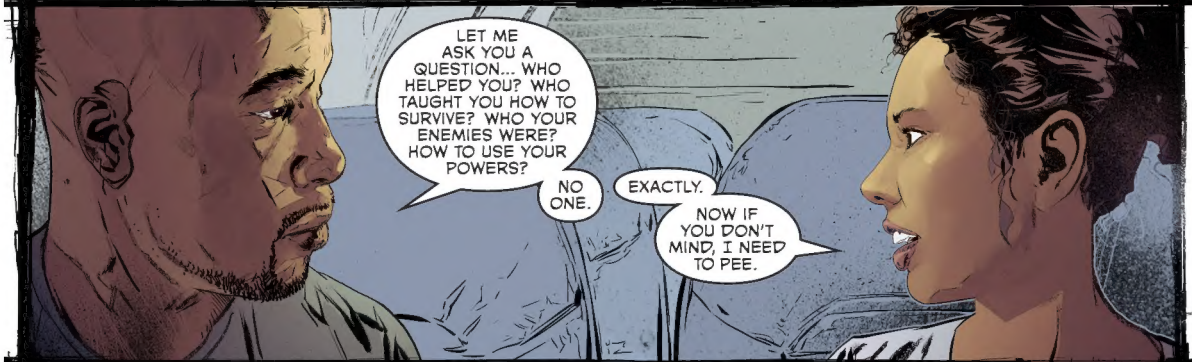


I GET YOUR ANGER.
KEEP THAT. I'M TALKING ABOUT
YOUR POWERS AND HOW TO USE
THEM. I'VE BEEN AROUND YOU WHEN
YOU SPOKE LIKE YOU WERE
ANOTHER PERSON.

I'M
FINE.

YOU'RE NOT.
AND THE SOONER YOU
UNDERSTAND THAT THE
BETTER YOU'LL BE. BECAUSE
RIGHT NOW, NEITHER OF US
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
CAPABLE OF.

THEN
I GUESS
I'LL HAVE TO
LEARN,
WON'T I?



LET ME
ASK YOU A
QUESTION... WHO
HELPED YOU? WHO
TAUGHT YOU HOW TO
SURVIVE? WHO YOUR
ENEMIES WERE?
HOW TO USE YOUR
POWERS?

NO
ONE.

EXACTLY.

NOW IF
YOU DON'T
MIND, I NEED
TO PEE.





FIVE MINUTES PASS.



THEN TEN MORE.

WHAT'S
TAKING SO
LONG?

WATCH
OUT! I'M
RIGHT
HERE.



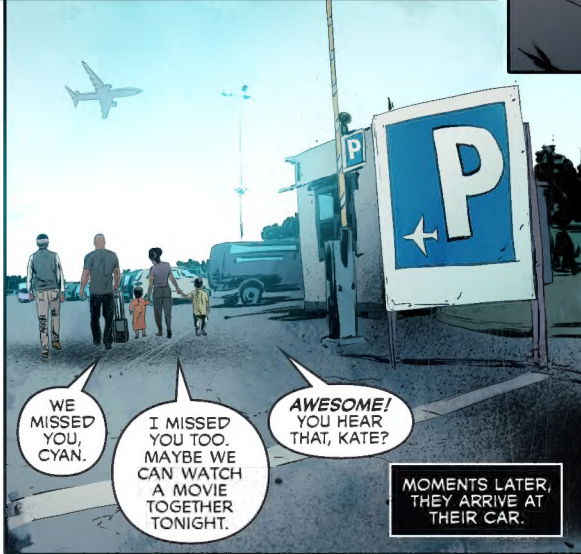
HOW
LONG
HAVE...

A WHILE.
NOW SCOOT
OVER.



I'M
CONFUSED.

YOU SHOULD BE,
BECAUSE I COULD'VE
SLIT YOUR THROAT
IF I HAD A KNIFE. SO...
YOU'VE GOT A COUPLE
HOURS TO GIVE ME ALL
YOUR WISDOM...





HE STEPS IN
THE SHADOWS...



...TRANSPORTING TO
OTHER SHADOWS
FORTY MILES AWAY.

THEY
FOUND
HER.

I'VE HEARD.
AND IT CAME FASTER
THAN WE THOUGHT.
THOUGH THE PLAYER IN
JAPAN FOUND HER
MORE BY ACCIDENT
THAN INTENT.

THAT
WON'T
MATTER. ALL
THEY'LL CARE
ABOUT IS
THAT SHE
EXISTS.


DID YOU
TALK TO HER?
TELL HER WHAT
SHE CAN
EXPECT?



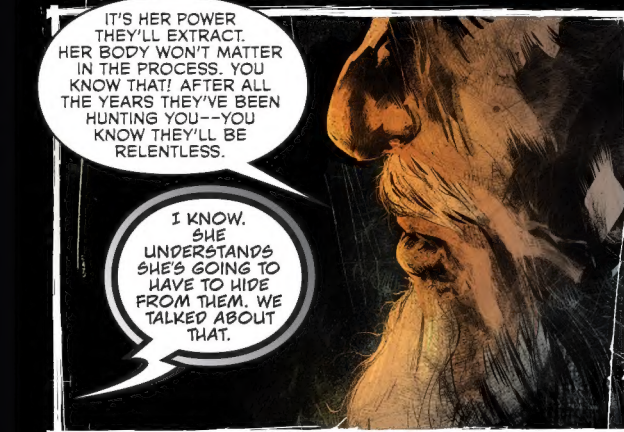
AS
MUCH
AS I COULD,
DON'T KNOW
HOW MUCH
SHE TOOK
IN.



THAT'S
NOT GOOD
ENOUGH!



SHE HAS
TO PREPARE
HERSELF. THEY WON'T
CARE SHE'S
A CHILD.



IT'S HER POWER.
THEY'LL EXTRACT.
HER BODY WON'T MATTER
IN THE PROCESS. YOU
KNOW THAT! AFTER ALL
THE YEARS THEY'VE BEEN
HUNTING YOU--YOU
KNOW THEY'LL BE
RELENTLESS.

I KNOW.
SHE
UNDERSTANDS
SHE'S GOING TO
HAVE TO HIDE
FROM THEM. WE
TALKED ABOUT
THAT.



WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING TO
DO?

I'M GOING
TO FIND THEM
BEFORE THEY FIND
HER. AND I'M GOING
TO LET THEM KNOW
I'M BACK.



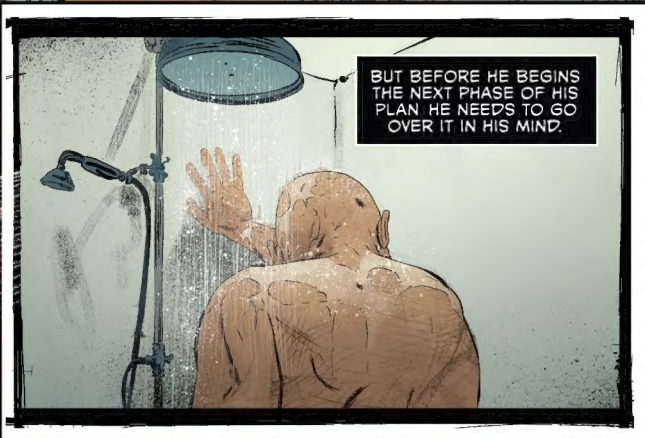
HOW?



JUST
WATCH.

SPAWN TELEPORTS AGAIN.
THIS TIME IT'S TO THE MIDDLE
OF NOWHERE IN SOME SMALL
UPSTATE COUNTY. TO A HOUSE
HE NOW CALLS HOME.





BUT BEFORE HE BEGINS
THE NEXT PHASE OF HIS
PLAN HE NEEDS TO GO
OVER IT IN HIS MIND.



AGAIN, AND
AGAIN.



tek
tek
tek
tek
tek

UNTIL HIS EVERY MOVE
HAS A PURPOSE.



AND EVERY
TARGET HAS A
SIGNIFICANCE.

PERFECT.

COMING OFF HIS LATEST GRAMMY WINNING RECORD, SUPER-STAR RAPPER 'BONZ CHILLIN' THOUGHT A FEW NIGHTS AT THE CLUBS MIGHT HELP HIM RELAX BEFORE HE HAS TO THINK ABOUT GETTING BACK INTO THE RECORDING STUDIO.

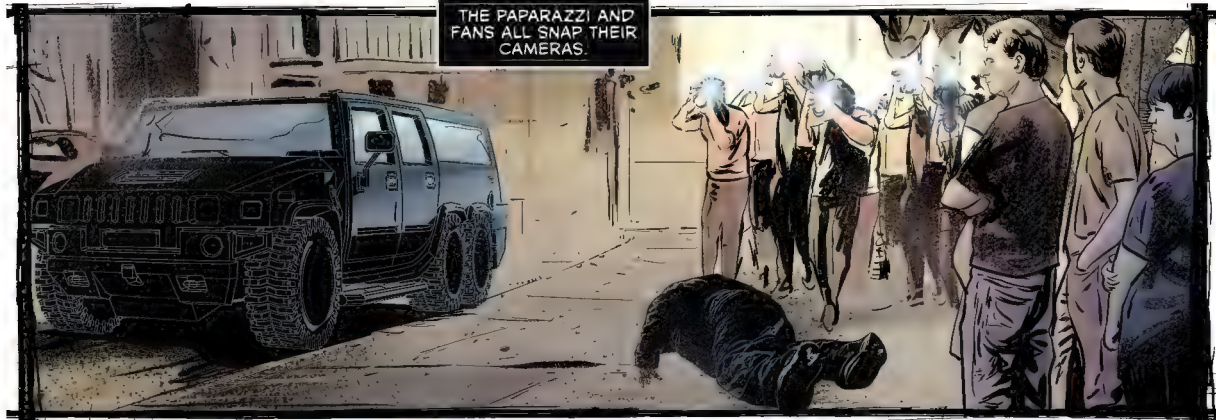
HEY!
GET AWAY
FROM THAT
CAR.

AND BEING ABLE TO
BE SEEN AT ALL THOSE
CLUBS ALSO HELPS ELEVATE
HIS PUBLIC PROFILE.

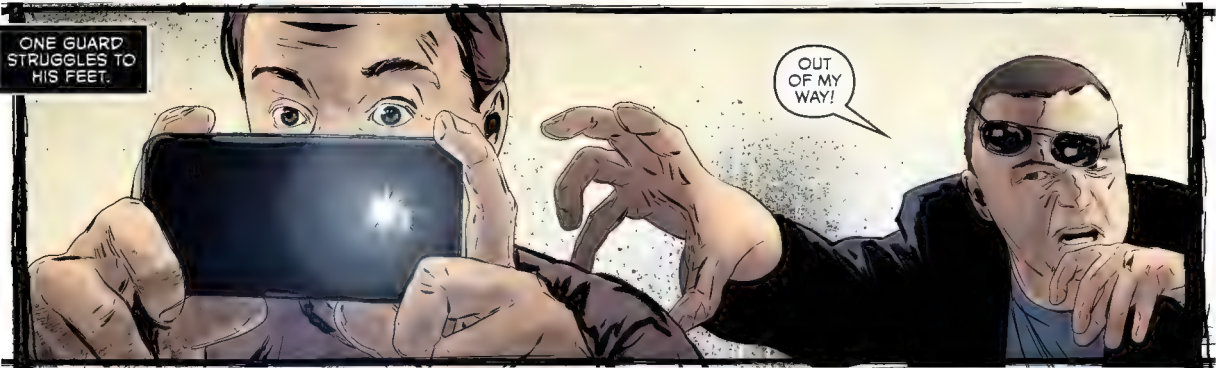
YOU HEAR
ME? YOU
NEED TO STEP
ASIDE.



THE PAPARAZZI AND
FANS ALL SNAP THEIR
CAMERAS.



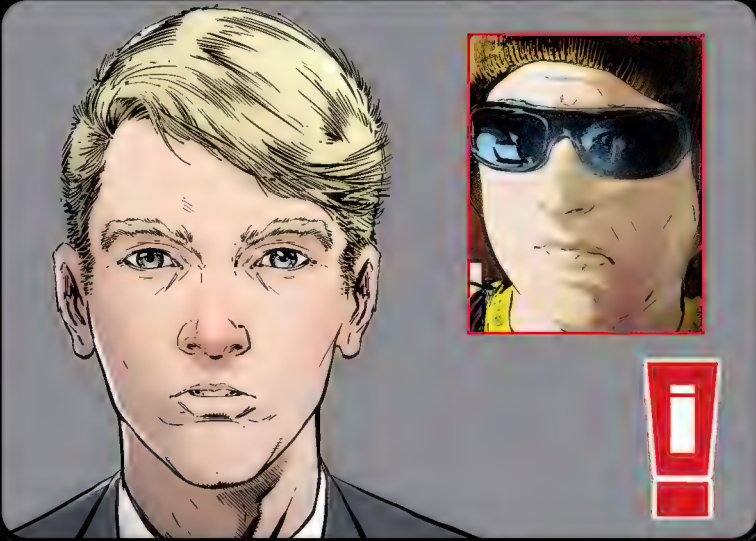
ONE GUARD
STRUGGLES TO
HIS FEET.





...AND IN A STUNNING TURN OF EVENTS TODAY, AWARD-WINNING SINGER **BONZ CHILLIN'** WAS KIDNAPPED IN FRONT OF THE ROYAL REGENT CAFE. THE SINGER, WHOSE REAL NAME IS JAMES RUSHART, WAS LEAVING THE RESTAURANT WHEN HE AND HIS TWO BODYGUARDS WERE ATTACKED IN FRONT OF DOZENS OF ONLOOKERS AND FANS. POLICE DO NOT HAVE ANY LEADS AS TO WHO THE PERPETRATOR WAS, OR WHAT POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS MIGHT BE BEHIND THIS BRAZEN ACT.

OUR SOURCES INSIDE THE L.A.P.D. TELL US THAT, AS OF YET, THERE'S BEEN NO RANDOM CALL OR ANY CONTACT FROM THE KIDNAPPER. AND, AS HARD AS IT MAY BE TO ACCEPT THIS NEXT STATEMENT, EYEWITNESSES SAY THAT MR. CHILLIN' AND HIS ASSAILANT WENT INTO THE SINGER'S LIMO AND SIMPLY VANISHED WHEN SOMEONE ATTEMPTED TO INTERVENE.



WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO VERIFY THIS NEAR-IMPOSSIBLE ACCOUNT OF THE EVENTS. A FEW VIDEOS HAVE ALREADY SURFACED ON THE INTERNET AND ON ABC NEWS, SHOWING THE STRUGGLE AND ULTIMATE 'VANISHING' OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUPERSTAR. THE VIDEO, WE ARE TOLD, SHOWS THE KIDNAPPER PUSHING BONZ CHILLIN' INTO THE LIMO, BUT NEITHER OF THEM EVER CAME OUT. AUTHORITIES DON'T KNOW IF THE TWO OF THEM WERE ABLE TO GET OUT THE OTHER SIDE OF THE VEHICLE UNSEEN, BUT AS OF NOW THE FACT IS THAT NO ONE KNOWS WHERE EITHER THE KIDNAPPER OR THE SINGER MAY BE.

A CITYWIDE MANHUNT HAS BEGUN. MEANWHILE, EVERYONE IN THE ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS IS REPORTEDLY ON HIGH ALERT. PRIVATE SECURITY MEASURES HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED.

BONZ CHILLIN', AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, RECENTLY WON FOUR GRAMMY AWARDS FOR HIS LATEST ALBUM "BRINGING IT ALL BACK TO EARTH." HIS METEORIC RISE IN THE PAST YEAR HAS MADE HIS SOCIAL NETWORK CHANNELS THE ENVY OF THE RECORDING INDUSTRY.

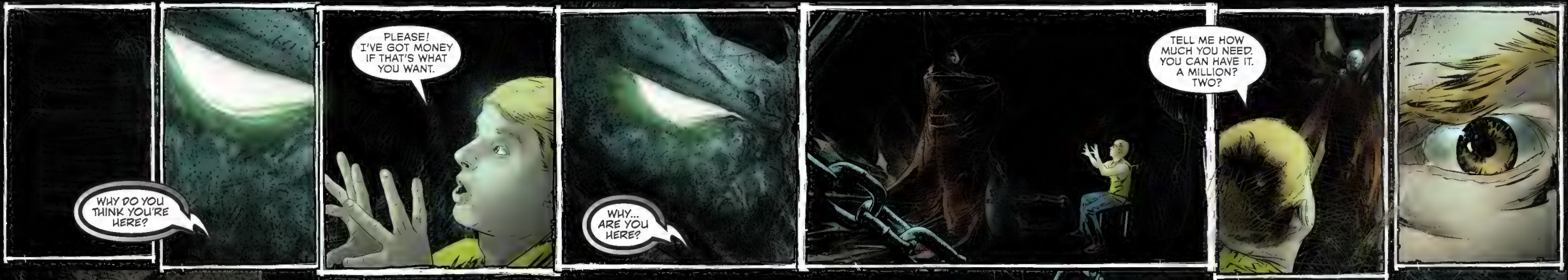


REALLY?! THEY JUST UP AND **DISAPPEARED?!** HOW ABSURD. THE MEDIA'S **FAKE NEWS** MACHINE ISN'T LIMITED TO JUST **POLITICAL** STORIES, NOW IT'S SPILLING OVER INTO THE **ENTERTAINMENT** WORLD!

OBVIOUSLY THE **POLICE** JUST DON'T WANT TO ADMIT THEY JUST **DIDN'T DO THEIR JOBS**, AND LET THIS **HIGH-PROFILE SINGER** BE TAKEN IN **BROAD DAYLIGHT** WITH ZERO EFFORT TO PREVENT IT. LOOK, I'M **NO FAN** OF BONZ CHILLIN'S MUSIC... DOESN'T MAKE MUCH **SENSE** TO ME... BUT WHEN A GLOBAL PERSONALITY CAN'T HAVE THE CONFIDENCE THAT HE OR SHE CAN GO OUT FOR THE EVENING, WELL, THAT'S A **STAIN** ON OUR **AMERICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM** AS A **WHOLE**.

AND AMAZINGLY, **ALL** THE VIDEO OF THE KIDNAPPER SEEMS TO BE **SO BLURRY** THAT NO ONE IS ABLE TO GET A CLEAR SHOT AT HIM. SEEMS KIND OF 'MAGICAL' THAT THE **ONLY** PERSON IN THE VIDEO WE **CAN'T MAKE OUT** IS THE **CROOK...** WHO WASN'T TRYING TO HIDE HIMSELF?!

GIVE ME A BREAK!



WHY DO YOU THINK YOU'RE HERE?

PLEASE! I'VE GOT MONEY IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT.

WHY... ARE YOU HERE?

TELL ME HOW MUCH YOU NEED. YOU CAN HAVE IT. A MILLION? TWO?



WHY?

HIDE IT IF YOU WANT. I ALREADY KNOW WHAT YOU ARE, AND SINCE YOU DON'T WANT TO ANSWER-- I'LL TELL YOU WHY YOU'RE HERE.

BECAUSE YOU'RE USEFUL TO ME.

WHAT DO YOU WANT??



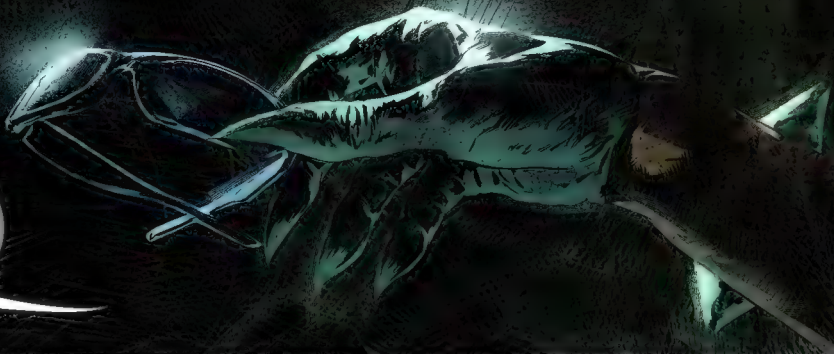
NOT YOU. YOU'RE NOT THAT IMPORTANT. BUT SOME IN YOUR HERD ARE.

THEY'LL HUNT YOU DOWN

YOU'RE WRONG. I'M THE ONE DOING THE HUNTING THIS TIME.


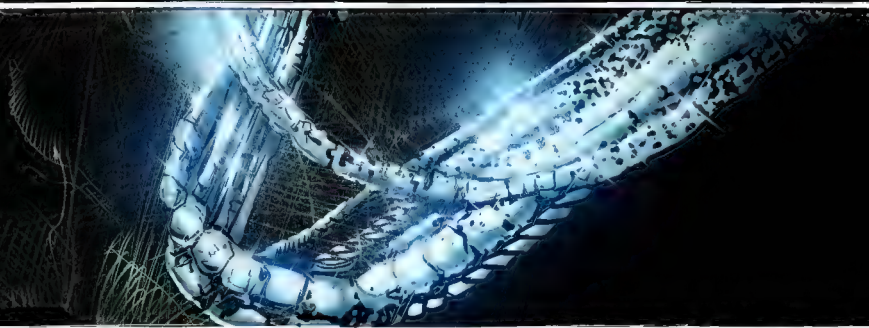
DO YOU LIKE YOUR CAREER?

WHAT?



ALL THAT
ADULATION. THE
MEDIA HOUNDING YOU
ALL THE TIME, WOMEN
THROWING THEMSELVES
AT YOU. FANS. MONEY.
CARS. DRUGS. PARTIES
LASTING UNTIL THE
MORNING.

IF YOU WANT
TO KEEP ALL THAT,
THEN I NEED YOU
DRESSED FOR THE
OCCASION. THE WORLD
NEEDS TO SEE BONZ
CHILLIN' IN ALL
HIS GLORY.



SHIT, DOG, THIS
WHAT YOU LOOKING
FOR YOU BAD MO-FO,
'CAUSE I'M ACHING
FOR MY HOMIES. YOU
FEEL ME?



HOW
MANY PEOPLE
HAD TO DIE
FOR YOU TO
BE PROMISED
A HIT
RECORD?



AND HERE'S THE THING... DOG. I BET YOU DIDN'T CARE FOR ONE SECOND WHO THOSE PEOPLE WERE. THAT'S WHY I'M COMING. I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU AND YOUR SIDE SOME OF THAT SAME SUFFERING.

TOUGH TALK.

WE'LL SEE. IT'S TIME FOR US TO GO.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE FRANTIC

L.A.P.D. STILL HAVE NO LEAD

BONZ CHILLIN' SEEMS TO

A CITY WIDE MANHUNT IS UNDERWAY WITH

AS OF NOW NO ONE HAS SEEN OR HEARD...

SO, I KEEP DOING MY THING YOU'LL LET ME GO?



THAT'S YOUR PLAN?

THAT'S MY PLAN.



THEN LET'S DO THIS SHIT! I'M PSYCHED.





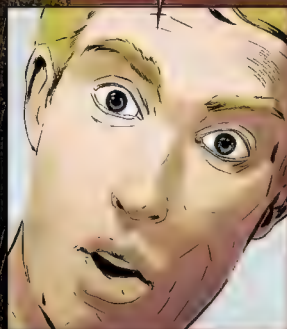
TIMES SQUARE,
NEW YORK CITY.



IS THAT..?

SNAP *clik clik clik*

MY GOD.



AT FIRST, THE STREET CROWD IS UNABLE TO PERCEIVE SPAWN'S DRAMATIC APPEARANCE, SO IT TAKES A MINUTE FOR EVERYONE TO FATHOM WHAT'S ACTUALLY UNFOLDING IN FRONT OF THEM.

THEN IT BEGINS TO DAWN ON THEM-- ONE OF THE PEOPLE STANDING IN FRONT OF THEM IS THE RECENTLY KIDNAPPED RAP SINGER ALL THE NEWS OUTLETS HAVE BEEN REPORTING ON.



SNAP SNAP *clik clik*

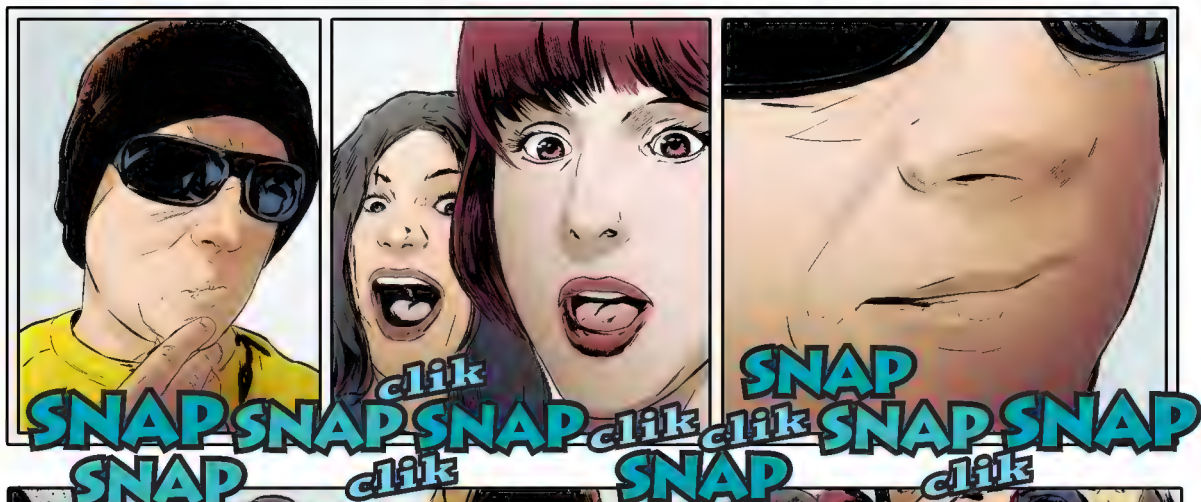
SNAP
SNA
SN
clik



OFFICER, IT'S **HIM!** BONZ CHILLIN', THE GUY THAT DISAPPEARED IN L.A.! HE'S HERE! THAT'S HIM!



AND BECAUSE OF OUR NEAR OBSESSION FOR CELEBRITIES, DOZENS OF TOURISTS AND LOCALS BARELY REGISTER THE MAN IN THE FLOWING CAPE NEAR THE RAP STAR.



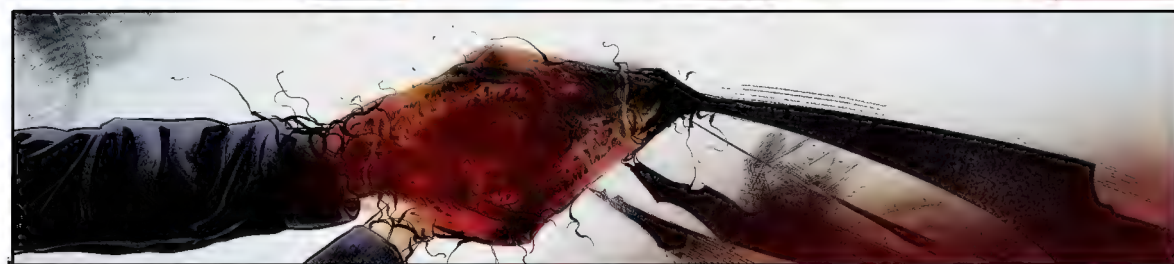
INSTEAD THEY'RE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT BEING ABLE TO TEXT OR SNAPCHAT OR TWEET THAT THEY'RE STANDING BY SOME SUPER FAMOUS PERSON.

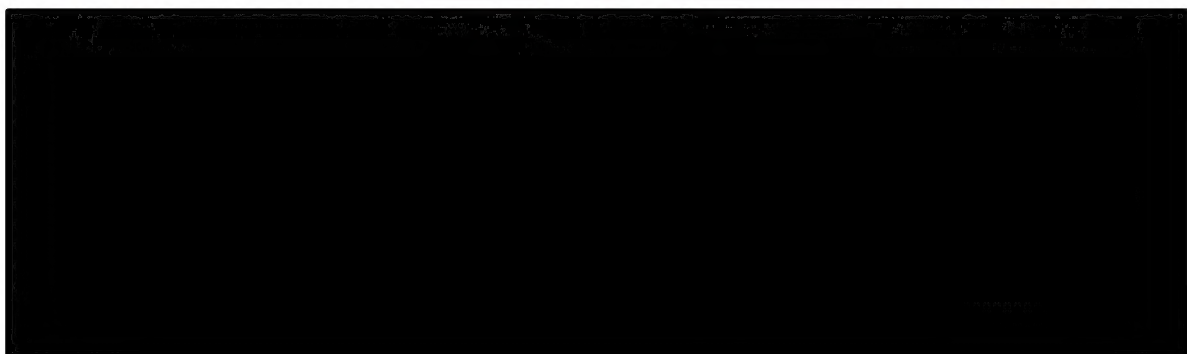
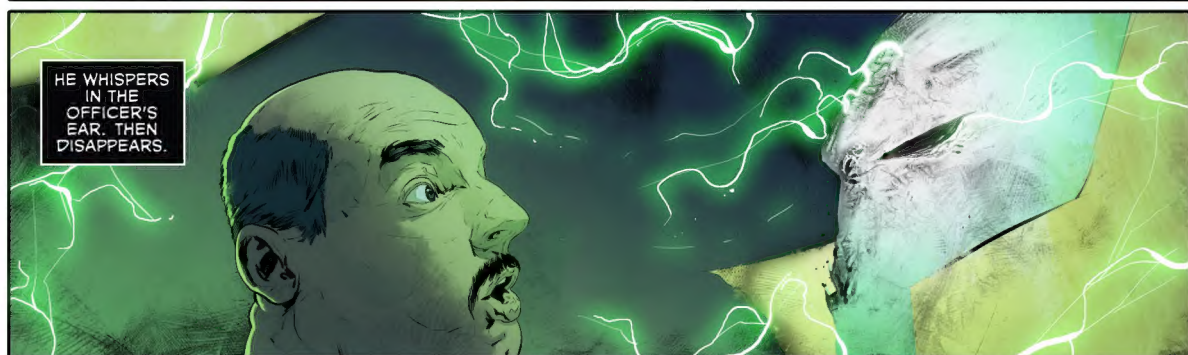
FORTUNATELY, OTHERS HAVE BEEN TRAINED TO REACT DIFFERENTLY.



FREEZE!

GET YOUR HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE THEM!





SPAWNING GROUND

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MONTHLY CONTEST

WIN a 10 minute Skype call with Todd McFarlane and some COOL McFarlane toys and comics!

Each month readers will be giving a secret code word available ONLY in Spawning Ground.

Enter that code word HERE:

mcfarlane.com/spawningground for your chance to win awesome prizes!

Spawn issue #283 Code Word: **CLOWNFACE**

Winners will be notified by email two weeks after the release of the comic.

Good Luck!

Thank you, as always, for being loyal fans of Spawn!

Shannon Bailey
Publishing Coordinator



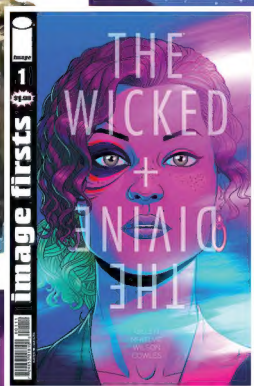
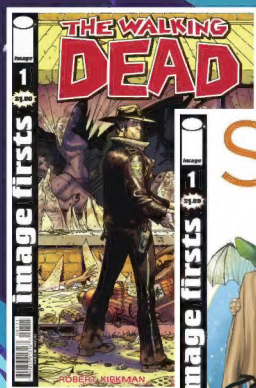
NEXT ISSUE

The re-creation of Spawn's arch villain, THE VIOLATOR...A NEW LOOK! NEW POWERS!

SCARED
TO LEAVE
YOUR

COMFORT ZONE?

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WITH INTRODUCTORY PRICED
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LAZARUS **EAST OF WEST** **I KILL GIANTS**
THE WALKING DEAD **I HATE FAIRYLAND**
KING CITY **SEX CRIMINALS**
KILL OR BE KILLED **RATQUEENS**
CURSE WORDS
SOUTHERN BASTARDS **SPAWN** THE WICKED + THE DIVINE **BLUE MONDAY**
MONSTRESS **CHEW** **KINGSMAN**
NOWHERE MEN
HOWTOONS THEY'RE NOT LIKE US **SUNSTONE** SEVEN TO ETERNITY
DESCENDER **PAPER GIRLS**
OCTOPUS PIE WYTCHEs **SHUTTER**
TOKYO GHOST THE BLACK MONDAY MURDERS **BITCH PLANET**
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